

Civil War Roundtable of North Florida



“Where Both Sides Are Heard”
Founded in 2012

Upcoming Meetings

September 13

Dale Cox

Battles of Marianna and Natural Bridge

October 11

Peggy Macdonald

Ester Hill Hawks, Physician

November 8

Donna Waller

Why the Civil War Happened

December 13

Christmas Party – No Regular Meeting

January 10, 2019

TBD

February 14, 2019

Basil Gribbon

Political Climate/Power Struggles of Europe vis-a-vis North America and the Civil War

March 14, 2019

Bruce Smith

CSS Jackson (Ironclad) & CSS Chattahoochee

April 11, 2019

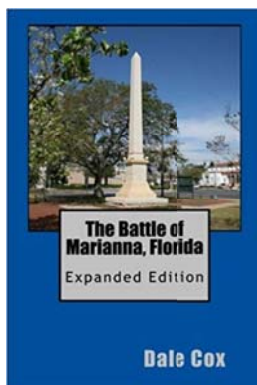
Joe Byrd

Maj. W. Simmons Confederate Sharpshooter

Please join us for our Next Meeting
6:30 PM Thursday, September 13, 2018

Battles of Marianna and Natural Bridge

By Dale Cox



The Battle of Marianna was fought on September 27, 1864, at the culmination of the deepest penetration of Confederate Florida by Union forces during the entire Civil War. One of the fiercest small battles of the Civil War.

The Battle of Natural Bridge, Florida was one of the last significant Confederate victories of the Civil War. The battle not only preserved Tallahassee's status as the only unconquered Southern capital east of the Mississippi, it protected a large area of North Florida and South Georgia from devastation at the hands of advancing Union troops.

Dale Cox is a Southern writer and historian based in the quaint little community of Two Egg, Florida. He is the author of more than a dozen books on Southern history and culture. His acclaimed Civil War study - "The Battle of Marianna, Florida" - was named best in its category by Civil War Books & Authors.

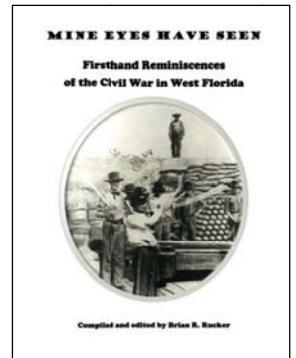
He will have copies of his books available for signing and sale at the meeting.

Last Month's Meeting July 12, 2018

Dr. Brian Rucker speaking on "Mine Eyes Have Seen: Firsthand Reminiscences of the Civil War in West Florida"



As one aspect of his research on the civil war Dr. Rucker 'scoured old diaries, letters, newspaper clippings, official records and reminiscences of individuals who participated in the events' for personal accounts by people from West Florida. In his presentation, Brian recounted several of those accounts as well as showing us illustrations and photos of the period, all related to West Florida in the Civil War.

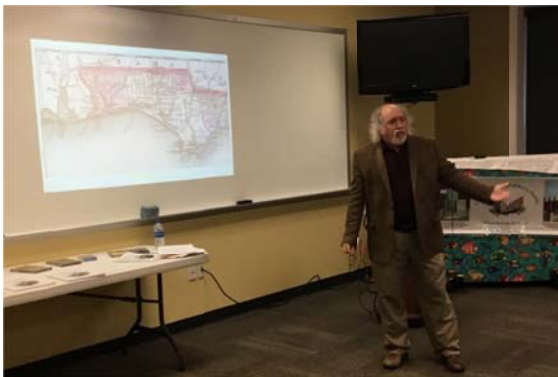


Pensacola, the most populated city in Florida in 1860 (population 2,876, Key West was second with 2,832) was a hot bed of activity as the US garrison was driven to Ft. Pickens on Santa Rosa island and the Navy Yard and Fts. Barrancas and McRee were occupied by the Confederates. The war could easily have started there rather than Ft. Sumter in Charleston, SC. And there was a claim that

"the big gun" at Ft. Barrancas fired a shot at Ft. Pickens in early 1861 making it the first shot of the Civil War. In time the Confederates



evacuated the forts and town in April 1862 because the troops were needed in Tennessee, never having captured Ft. Pickens. Pensacola was a virtual ghost town for the rest of the war.



He told of a story of the capture of the arsenal at Chattahoochee by the "Young Guard" of Quincy, Fla. There was a Ordinance Sergeant and three men guarding it. They offered no resistance.

Finally he described how two accounts of the Battle of Marinna were quite different.



Brian brought his book by the same title for selling and signing at the meeting. He also donated a copy which will be raffled off at the Christmas Party in December.

Thanks, Brian, for a very interesting and entertaining evening.



UPCOMING EVENTS

September 1. Fort McAllister, Richmond Hill, Georgia. 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Fort McAllister State Historic Park, 3894 Fort McAllister Road, Richmond Hill GA (near Savannah).

<http://gastateparks.org/FortMcAllister>

September 1-2. Fort Clinch, Fernandina Beach, Fla. “Union Garrison.” Living history, camp and demonstrations at Fort Clinch State Park, 2601 Atlantic Ave, Fernandina Beach. 9 am-5 pm Saturday, 9 am-noon Sunday. floridastateparks.org/park-events/Fort-Clinch

September 7-9. Tunnel Hill, Georgia. 25th Annual Battle of Tunnel Hill Civil War Reenactment. 215 Clisby Austin Road, Tunnel Hill GA. The cannon blast, the horses charge and the soldiers give the Rebel yell as they clash in authentic conflict on the historic grounds of Tunnel Hill. ,

www.civilwarrailroadtunnel.com

September 15. Fort Taylor, Key West, Fla. Living history, camps and demonstrations at the Fort Zachary Taylor Historic State Park, 601 Howard England Way, Key West. 10 am-2 pm. Free with park admission. floridastateparks.org/park-events/Fort-Taylor

September 15 & 16 and 18-20. 155th Anniversary of the Battle of Chickamauga Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia. 8:30 am to 5:00 pm each day. Chickamauga Battlefield, 3370 LaFayette Road, Fort Oglethorpe GA. Commemorate the 155th Anniversary of the Battle of Chickamauga with a series of ranger-guided tours, hikes, lectures and living history demonstrations.,

www.nps.gov/chch/chickamauga155.htm

September 28-29, 2018. Occupation of Palatka, Fla. The event will occur in front of the historic Bronson-Mulholland house and recalls the March 1864 occupation of Palatka by Union forces. This is a Living History with camp and display set-ups and demonstrations (including weapons firing). Friday is school day, event runs from 9:00 – 2:00 each day.

<https://sites.google.com/site/floridareenactorsonline/>

October 5-7, 2018. Parrish Train Raid, Parrish Fla. A small event with two short attacks on the train as it passes each day (11:00 AM and 1:00 PM) Florida Railroad Museum, 12210 83rd St. East, Parrish, FL <https://sites.google.com/site/floridareenactorsonline/>

October 12th-14th, 2018. Raid on Otter Springs. Trenton, Fla. Reenactment of the 3-part raid on Station 4, spanning February 9th through 13th, 1865. Two engagements on Saturday (Clay Landing and Levyville) with the Battle at Station 4 on Sunday. Otter Springs Park and Campground, 6470 SW 80th Ave., Trenton, Florida. <https://www.facebook.com/raidonotter/>

November 2-4, 2018. 34th Annual Ocklawaha River Raid, Ocala, Fla. Reenactment will occur at the Florida Horse Park, 11008 South Highway 475. Ocala, Fla.

<https://sites.google.com/site/floridareenactorsonline/>

SEPTEMBER IN THE CIVIL WAR

1861

- 3rd - Gen'l Polk orders Southern troops into Kentucky, which terminates Kentucky's neutral status.
- 6th - Gen'l Grant moves Federal forces into Paducah, Kentucky.
- 12th - Lincoln sends Judge Holt to Missouri to urge Gen'l Fremont to modify his "emancipation proclamation" which he issued on Aug. 30th.
- 16th - *USS Conestoga* takes on Confederate vessels in the Cumberland River.

1862

- 1st - Battle of Chantilly is the final clash in the Second battle of Bull Run, a victory for the south.
- 2nd - Lincoln orders Gen'l McClellan to take over the Union Army of Virginia
- 4th - Gen'l Lee moves the Army of Northern Virginia into Maryland.
- 13th - Gen'l Lee's orders for the Antietam campaign are discovered by Union soldiers.
- 17th - Battle of Antietam is the bloodiest day of the war. The battle was a draw.
- 22nd - Lincoln presents his Emancipation Proclamation to his cabinet

1863

- 4th - Gen'l Grant is fallen on by his horse and partly lame for several weeks.
- 5th - After protests from the US the British government seized 2 Ironclads built for the Confederacy by Laird Bros. in Birkenhead, England
- 18th - 20th Battle of Chickamauga results in the Federal forces retreating to Chattanooga.
- 23rd - Lincoln sends Hooker's two corps from Virginia via rail to reinforce Rosecrans in Chattanooga

1864

- 1st - Gen'l Hood and the Army of Tennessee evacuate Atlanta.
- 2nd - Gen'l Slocum's XX Corps move into Atlanta.
- 4th - Union troops kill the famous raider, Gen'l John Hunt Morgan in Greenville, Tenn.
- 4th - A 60 day bombardment of Ft. Sumter ends.
- 8th - Gen'l McClellan accepts the Democratic nomination for president.
- 19th - Confederate agents put into action a plan to capture the *USS Michigan* on Lake Erie and free the POWs at Johnson's Island, Ohio, but fail.

New for 2018 - Raffle at the end of each Meeting

In an effort to raise more funds for continued exciting outside speakers the board has decided to hold a raffle at the end of each meeting. A Grand Prize related to the Civil War will be raffled off. In addition, conciliation prizes of books, other Civil War related items and a few fun items will be drawn for. Please see Sue Wooley to get your tickets before the meeting.



Typical of Monthly Raffle Items at each Meeting

Book sales



We continue the book sale but with a much reduced selection of books. We have downsized the large number of books we were hauling back and forth to the meetings. We'll visit the Alachua County Library book sale in the fall, looking for a few good books to add to the sale.

Christmas Party

We will be holding the Christmas Party this year on the 2nd Thursday of December, the 13th. There will be entertainment by two local artists from Cedar Key playing guitar and banjo and singing period songs. Space is limited, so sign-up early. We'll have sign-up sheets at the next two meetings, September and October.

Advisory Board Members

Terry Huston (352-359-1442, thuston528@msn.com)

Bill Zettler

Eric Starnes

Bob Wooley (352-325-0722, wooleyry@gmail.com)

Sid Mayer